



Wisconsin Emerald Ash Borer NEWSLETTER

February 2010

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Wintertime and the Lookin' is Easy

It's the middle of winter and it's a great time to be on the hunt for signs of the emerald ash borer. A dozen men and women with the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection EAB Program have been working since January in several parts of the state to gather information about the current infestations in Wisconsin. In Green Bay and Kenosha, crews are looking for signs of infested trees after traps in those

two cities captured adult EAB beetles last summer. So far, no infested trees have been discovered in either community. In other infested areas such as Victory (Vernon County), surveyors are looking to see if the infestations are beyond the edges of where we've previously trapped adult beetles.

But why look for insects in the winter, you might ask.



Woodpecker damaged ash in Newburg, Wis.

photo courtesy WI DATCP

We're not actually looking for the insect, but for one of the early tell-tale signs of EAB infestation: woodpecker damage. In the winter, when the leaves are off the tree, you can see clearly to the upper branches where infestations typically begin. Woodpeckers are really good at finding the immature stage of the beetle (larva) when it's hidden beneath the bark, and getting to them leaves behind distinct evidence of their success.



Vern Klingbeil (l) and Heather Gentry-Nimmer look for stressed ash trees in Green Bay

photo courtesy WI DATCP

Summer Survey Preview

DATCP's gearing up again for a big survey program during the summer of 2010. Nearly 9,000 sticky, purple traps will dot the landscape, in both urban and rural locations. While specific locations are still being

evaluated, we can say that much of the state (areas shaded in yellow on the map) will have a trap every 1.5 square miles, provided there's an ash tree in that area. Roughly 40 surveyors will begin hanging the traps in early May. The survey, including trap inspection and take-down, will wrap up around the end of September.



An EAB survey trap at Blackhawk Recreational Area in Vernon County, Wis.

photo courtesy WI DATCP



Cooperative Emerald Ash Project 2010 Grid-based survey areas indicated in yellow

map courtesy USDA APHIS PPQ

Last year, survey traps detected EAB in Green Bay, Kenosha and in Crawford County.

Attend a free webinar at EAB University



Emerald Ash Borer University (EAB U) is a series of free Webinar sessions, where topics pertinent to the emerald ash borer invasion in North America are highlighted by specialists dealing with EAB.

Sessions cover topics such as the history of EAB in North America, latest research on EAB, studies on insecticide usage, and utilization of ash wood in the wake of EAB. These sessions run between 30 and 60 minutes long and are held once or twice a month.

To find out more, or to sign up, go to http://www.emeraldashborer.info/eab_university.cfm.

You can also watch previous EAB U Webinars at the site.

Dane County Emerald Ash Borer & Wood Utilization Strategic Management Plan

Dane County Land and Water Resources Department

With the emerald ash borer already present in southeastern and western Wisconsin, the Dane County Land and Water Resources Department took steps to prepare for the invasive beetle's arrival.

Thanks to an urban forestry grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Dane County began developing the **Dane County Emerald Ash Borer and Wood Utilization Strategic Management Plan** in January of 2008. With proactive preparation as its guiding philosophy, the County plan identifies actions for residents, municipalities, and local officials to consider in order to meet the challenges posed by EAB. The plan consolidates essential information within one accessible, useable reference document. Incorporating input from agency personnel, local units of government, residents, and professional arborists, three goals were clearly identified which helped guide the planning process.

They included:

- *Reduce the environmental impacts of the EAB within Dane County.*
- *Mitigate the potential economic and social costs associated with emerald ash borer control efforts and damage.*
- *Find ways to put wood formerly considered "waste" to positive and profitable use.*

A significant component of this plan is the focus on wood utilization. Since an increased volume of waste wood will be among the EAB's most significant consequences, the plan also outlines various options for dealing with waste wood—from infestations as well as potential storm events. Dane County hopes to further investigate value-added markets for urban wood products, including the use of wood as a biofuel to provide for alternative energy sources used to power our communities.

For more information, please see

http://www.countyofdane.com/lwr/parks/emerald_ash_borer.aspx

Upcoming Events

Check out the **Emerald Ash Borer Municipal Utilization Workshop** on Thursday, March 25 at the Lussier Family Heritage Center in Madison. The event is sponsored by the Town & County RC&D. Municipal managers, foresters and arborists seeking solutions to the growing threat of EAB should attend.

The workshop begins at 9:00 a.m. and concludes at 3:30 p.m.

Online registration is required by March 22 at www.townandcountryrcd.org.

A maximum of 50 people may attend.

Presentations during the day from representatives of DNR, DATCP, UW-Extension, Dane County Parks and others.



"Our mission is to optimize opportunities for sustainable economic growth, healthy communities and a healthy environment in the Town and Country RC&D area through the support and coordination of our region's agencies, municipalities and organizations."

Wisconsin Emerald Ash Borer Program

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin Madison & Extension, US Forest Service, US Department of Agriculture APHIS PPQ